

GENERAL PROGRAMME

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE: THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS INTEGRATION: TOWARDS A USERS' PERSPECTIVE

9-11 December 2015

Het Pand, Onderbergen 1, Ghent

TUESDAY 8 DECEMBER

VENUE

16.30 Departure from Novotel
17.00 – 19.00 **Children's rights walk**

Novotel, Goudenleeuwplein 5

WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER

9.00 – 10.00 **Registration and welcome coffee**

Kapittelzaal

10.00 – 10.30 **Welcome and introduction to the conference**

Refter

Eva Brems, Ghent University, and Ellen Desmet, Ghent University/University of Antwerp

10.30 – 12.00 **Plenary panel: Theorizing fragmentation and integration in human rights law** (Track 1)

Refter

Chair: Barbara Oomen, University College Roosevelt

Fragmented sovereignties and (global) normative pluralism
Shalini Randeria, The Graduate Institute, Geneva

Fragmentation and integration for better and worse: Assessing the doctrines of a margin of appreciation and of the emerging European consensus
Andreas Føllesdal, University of Oslo



12.00 – 13.30	Lunch	Kapittelzaal
	Parallel: Publishers' stall Poster session Human Rights Integration network	Kapittelzaal Kapittelzaal
13.30 – 15.00	Parallel panel sessions (no. 1)	
	<i>Track 1:</i> Theorizing human rights in today's world -----	Refter
	<i>Track 2:</i> Tracing the convergence and divergence of international human rights in the ----- European Union	Rector Vermeylen
	<i>Track 3:</i> The judge, the Constitution and the Treaty -----	Oude Infirmerie
	<i>Track 5:</i> Human rights may be useful -----	Rector Blancquaert
15.00 – 15.30	Coffee break	Kapittelzaal
15.30 – 17.00	Parallel panel sessions (no. 2)	
	<i>Track 2:</i> Cultural diversity as a challenge to the convergence between international human ----- rights bodies	Rector Vermeylen
	<i>Track 3:</i> Dialogues around human rights: some national experiences -----	Oude Infirmerie
	<i>Track 4:</i> Convergence and divergence between IHRL and international criminal law -----	Refter
	<i>Track 5:</i> Do the regional human rights mechanisms matter? -----	Rector Blancquaert
18.30	Welcome reception Music: Petar Elmazov and Kolyo Mihalev	Gravensteen, Sint-Veerleplein 11



THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER – HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

VENUE

9.00 – 10.30	<p>Plenary panel: Convergence and divergence between international human rights law (IHRL) and other branches of international law (Track 4)</p> <p>Chairs: Paul De Hert and Stefaan Smis, Vrije Universiteit Brussel</p> <p>An inquiry into the possible guiding, gap-filling, expanding or narrowing effects of international criminal law on international human rights law and international humanitarian law <i>Patricia Pinto Soares, European University Institute</i></p> <p>The relation between human rights and international criminal law: between cross-fertilization and non-respect <i>Damien Scalia, University of Geneva and Université catholique de Louvain</i></p>	Refter
10.30 – 11.00	<p>Scholars at Risk</p> <p>Chair: Eva Brems, Ghent University</p> <p>Introduction to the Scholars at Risk (SAR) Network and UAF <i>Ella De Lange, SAR and UAF</i></p> <p>Signing of MoU between SAR and Ghent University <i>Guido Van Huylbroeck, Academic Director Internationalisation, and Ella De Lange</i></p> <p>Testimony of SAR at Ghent University <i>Kassem Alsayed Mahmoud (Syria)</i></p>	Refter
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break	Kapittelzaal



11.30 – 13.00	<p>Parallel panel sessions (no. 3)</p> <p><i>Track 1: Legal pluralism and theorizing human rights</i> ----- Rector Vermeylen</p> <p><i>Track 3: The permeability of the constitutional protection of human rights</i> ----- Rafter</p> <p><i>Track 4: Convergence and divergence between IHRL and transnational criminal law and international responsibility law</i> ----- Rector Blancquaert</p> <p><i>Track 5: Africa and China</i> ----- Oude Infirmierie</p>	
13.00 – 14.30	<p>Lunch</p> <p>13.10: Human rights documentary “9999” of Ellen Vermeulen</p> <p>Chair: Yves Haeck, Ghent University</p> <p><i>Q&A with documentary maker Ellen Vermeulen</i></p>	<p>Kapittelzaal</p> <p>Rafter</p>
14.30 – 16.00	<p>Plenary panel: Convergence and divergence between national and international human rights law (Track 3)</p> <p>Chair: Sébastien Van Drooghenbroeck, Saint-Louis University, Brussels</p> <p>The interplay between domestic and international human rights: mutual reinforcement, complementarity, or levelling down? <i>Maya Hertig-Randall, University of Geneva</i></p> <p>Constitutional versus international human rights protection: added value or redundancy? <i>Jan Velaers, University of Antwerp</i></p>	<p>Rafter</p>
16.00 – 16.30	<p>Coffee break</p>	<p>Kapittelzaal</p>



16.30 – 18.00	Parallel panel sessions (no. 4)	
	<i>Track 1: The usefulness of human rights in addressing today's societal problems -----</i>	Rector Vermeulen
	<i>Track 2: Convergence in international human rights adjudication: techniques and challenges -----</i>	Refter
	<i>Track 4: Convergence and divergence between IHRL and international humanitarian law and international refugee law -----</i>	Rector Blancquaert
	<i>Track 5: Meanwhile at the UN -----</i>	Oude Infirmerie
19.30	Conference dinner at Belfort Restaurant	Emile Braunplein

FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER

9.00 – 10.30	Plenary panel: Convergence and divergence within international human rights law (Track 2)	Refter
	Chairs: Emmanuelle Bribosia and Isabelle Rorive, Université libre de Bruxelles	
	The emerging common law of human rights <i>Olivier De Schutter, Université catholique de Louvain</i>	
	The European Union in the international system of human rights protection: Solo singer or voice in the choir? <i>Bruno De Witte, Maastricht University</i>	
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break	Kapittelzaal
11.00 – 12.30	Parallel panel sessions (no. 5)	
	<i>Track 2: Convergence through adaption: Discussing the merit of new institutions and perspectives to human rights -----</i>	Refter



Track 3: At the crossroad of national and international protection: selected topics ----- Rector Blancquaert
 Track 4: Convergence and divergence between IHRL and international economic law
 and international environmental law ----- Oude Infirmerie
 Track 5: Human rights may be useless ----- Rector Vermeylen

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch

Kapittelzaal

12.40: **Human rights documentary “Séparés (Gescheiden)”** of Sophie de Brabandere

Refter

Chair: Eva Brems, Ghent University

Introduction by Dirk Vanheule, President of the Belgian Refugee Council;

Q&A with Astrid Declercq, jurist at the Belgian Refugee Council

14.00 – 15.30

Plenary panel: Human rights are useless/useful (Track 5)

Refter

Chair: Koen De Feyter, University of Antwerp

A new agenda for human rights after the rise of the rest

Balakrishnan Rajagopal, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Closing remarks

Eva Brems, Ghent University

SATURDAY 12 DECEMBER

9.30

Departure from Novotel

Novotel, Goudenleeuwplein 5

10.00 – 12.00

Children’s rights walk